Apr-30-07 04:16pm From-

> Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

RECEIVED **CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

-Page 2-

APR 3 0 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application;

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62 wherein spacer for use with a panel-member used in a construction form, said spacer comprising further comprises:
 - (a) first and second rod members having first portions oriented generally in or towards a first direction, said first and second rod members being spaced apart in a second transverse direction that is orthogonal to said first direction and said first and second rods being in generally spaced, and generally parallel relation to each other, each of said first and second rod members having an end portion that is oriented at an angle to said first portions of said rod members, said angle being oriented toward a third longitudinal direction that is orthogonal to said first direction and said second direction;
 - (b) a first transverse rod member secured proximate to or at said end portion of said first and second rod members and extending generally in said second transverse direction between said first and second rod members;
 - (c) a second transverse rod member secured to said end portions of each of said first and second rod members, said second transverse rod member being spaced in said first and third directions from said first transverse rod member, and said second transverse rod member extending generally in said second transverse direction between said first and second rod members; and

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007 Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 3-

- (d) said first and second vertical rod members, and said first and second transverse rod members defining and providing there between a retaining cell, for receiving there through and retaining an elongated reinforcement member that may be oriented generally in one or both either of said first and third directions.
- 2. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A spacer panel unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first direction is substantially vertical.
- 3. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A spacer panel unit as claimed in claim 2, wherein said first and second rod members have end portions that are oriented at substantially the same angle to said first portions of said first and second rod members.
- 4. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A spacer panel unit as claimed in claim 3, wherein said same angle is between 20 and 40 degrees measured from said first direction.
- 5. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A spacer panel unit as claimed in claim 1 wherein said apparatus tie member employed for securing said spacer to said first panel member and said first connector, comprises one of said first and second transverse rods having an end portion adapted to be secured to a panel connector.
- 6. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A spacer panel unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said first and second rod members has a second end portion opposite to said first end portion, each said first and second end portions being oriented at a first and second angle respectively to said first portions of said first and second rod members, said first and second angles both being oriented toward said third longitudinal direction that is orthogonal to said first direction and said second direction and wherein said spacer further comprises:
 - (a) a third transverse rod member secured proximate to or at said second end portion of said first and second rod members and extending generally in said second transverse direction between said first and second rod members;

Apr-30-07 04:16pm From-

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 4-

(b) a fourth transverse rod member secured to said second end portions of each of said first and second rod members, said fourth transverse rod member being spaced in said first and third directions from said third transverse rod member, and said fourth transverse rod member extending generally in said second transverse direction between said first and second rod members;

said first and second rod members, and said third and fourth transverse rod members configured to define and provide there between a second retaining cell, for receiving there through and retaining a generally vertically oriented reinforcement member.

- 7. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A spacer panel unit as claimed in claim 6, wherein said first and second retaining cells are substantially aligned in said second and third directions and spaced in said first direction to permit a reinforcement member generally oriented in said first direction to be retained in both said first and second retaining cells.
- 8. (Canceled).
- 9. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A spacer panel unit as claimed in claim [[8]] 5 wherein said first direction is substantially vertical.
- 10. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A spacer panel unit as claimed in claim 9, wherein said first and second rod members have end portions that are each oriented at substantially the same angle to said first portions of said first and second rod members.
- 11. (Withdrawn) A spacer as claimed in claim 8, wherein said apparatus for securing said spacers to said panel member comprises one of said first and second transverse rods of each said first and second spacer having an end portion adapted to be secured to a panel connector.

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 5-

- 12. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62 comprising a combination of first and second spacers for use in combination with [[a]] said first and second panel members to be used in a construction form for a wall, each of said first and second spacers comprising:
 - (a) first and second rod members having first portions oriented generally in or towards a first direction, said first and second rod members being spaced apart in a second transverse direction that is orthogonal to said first direction and said first and second rods being in generally spaced, and generally parallel relation to each other, each of said first and second rod members having an end portion that is oriented at an angle to said first portions of said rod members, said angle being oriented toward a third longitudinal direction that is orthogonal to said first direction and said second direction:
 - (b) a first transverse rod member secured proximate to or at said end portion of said first and second rod members and extending generally in said second transverse direction between said first and second rod members:
 - (c) a second transverse rod member secured to said end portions of each of said first and second rod members, said second transverse rod member being spaced in said first and third directions from said first transverse rod member, and said second transverse rod member extending generally in said second transverse direction between said first and second rod members; and
 - (d) said first and second vertical rod members, and said first and second transverse rod members defining and providing therebetween a retaining cell, for receiving therethrough and retaining an elongated reinforcement member oriented generally in one or both of said first and third directions;

Apr-30-07 04:16pm From-

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 6-

said retaining cell of said first spacer being spaced in said first direction from said retaining cell of said second spacer, and said retaining cell of said first spacer being substantially aligned within said second and third directions with said retaining cell of said second spacer to permit said reinforcement member to be held in a direction generally oriented to said first direction, by said first and second retaining cells.

- 13. (Withdrawn) A panel unit comprising:
 - (a) at least one upstanding and longitudinally oriented panel member;
 - (b) a spacer mounted to said panel member and said spacer comprising
 - (i) first and second rod members having first portions oriented generally in or towards a first direction, said first and second rod members being spaced apart in a second transverse direction that is orthogonal to said first direction and said first and second rods being in generally spaced, and generally parallel relation to each other, each of said first and second rod members having an end portion that is oriented at an angle to said first portions of said rod members, said angle being oriented toward a third longitudinal direction that is orthogonal to said first direction and said second direction:
 - (ii) a first transverse rod member secured proximate to or at said end portion of said first and second rod members and extending generally in said second transverse direction between said first and second rod members;
 - (iii) a second transverse rod member secured to said end portions of each of said first and second rod members, said second transverse rod member being spaced in said first and third directions from said first transverse

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 7-

rod member, and said second transverse rod member extending generally in said second transverse direction between said first and second rod members; and

said first and second vertical rod members, and said first and second transverse rod members defining and providing there between a retaining cell, for receiving there through and retaining an elongated reinforcement member oriented generally in one or both of said first and third directions.

- 14. (Withdrawn) A unit as claimed in claim 13 further comprising a securing mechanism for securely mounting said spacer to said panel member.
- 15. (Withdrawn) A unit as claimed in claim 14, wherein said securing mechanism comprises one of said first and second transverse rods having an end portion adapted to be secured to a panel connector.
- 16. (Withdrawn) A unit as claimed in claim 13, wherein said panel member has a plurality of perforations extending between an inner and an outer surface and said one of said first and second transverse rod members has an end extending into one of said perforations for securing said spacer to said panel connector.
- 17. (Withdrawn) A panel unit as claimed in claim 13, wherein said first and second rod members each has an end portion that is oriented at substantially the same angle to said medial portion of said first and second vertical rod member.
- 18. (Withdrawn) A panel unit as claimed in claim 13, wherein said panel member is made from a foamed plastic material.
- 19. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim [[13]] 1, wherein said spacer has a third rod member oriented generally in said first direction, said first,

Apr-30-07 04:17pm From-

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 8-

second and third rod members being in generally spaced, parallel relation to each other, said first and second transverse rod members extending across said first, second and third vertical rod members, said third vertical rod member being positioned in abutting adjacent relation to an inner surface of said panel member, whereby said first panel member is held between said connector and said third vertical rod member.

- 20. (Withdrawn) A panel unit as claimed in claim 13 further comprising a second panel member arranged in a spaced generally opposite parallel relation to said first panel member and wherein said spacer is mounted to and between said first panel member and said second panel member.
- 21. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62 wherein said connector comprises a connector assembly for use in securing a panel member to [[a]] said spacer with said transverse tie [[rod]] member, said connector assembly comprising:
 - (a) a cap member having a flange cap portion and a shaft portion, said shaft portion with an end having an opening adapted to be interconnected to an end portion of [[a]] said tie [[rod]] member; and,
 - (b) a bushing member having a flange portion and an axially aligned shaft portion with an end opposite to said flange portion, said bushing member having a continuous cavity formed in and passing through said flange portion and said shaft portion,

said shaft portion of said cap member being receivable axially into said continuous cavity of said bushing member through said flange portion toward said end of said shaft portion so as to be able to engage said end of said tie [[rod]] member extending through said end of said bushing member into said continuous cavity, said shaft portion of said cap member also engaging an abutment in said continuous cavity of

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 9-

said bushing member so to limit the extent of axial movement of said shaft portion of said cap member relative to said bushing member toward said end of said shaft portion of said bushing member;

whereby a panel member can be held between said flange portion of said cap member and said flange portion of said bushing member.

- 22. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A connector assembly panel unit as claimed in claim 21, wherein said cap member can be axially moved toward transverse rod member, such that a panel member can be compressed between said flange portion of said cap member and said flange portion of said bushing member to provide a rigid connection between said connector assembly, said panel member and said tie [[rod]] member.
- 23. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A connector assembly panel unit as claimed in claim 22, wherein said cap member is made from a plastic material.
- 24. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62 wherein said connector comprises a connector assembly for use in securing [[a]] said first panel member to a transverse tie [[rod]] member, said connector assembly comprising:
 - (a) a cap member having a flange cap portion and a shaft portion, said shaft portion with an end having an opening adapted to be interconnected to an end portion of a tie [[rod]] member; and
 - (b) a bushing member having a flange portion and an axially aligned shaft portion with an end opposite to said flange portion, said bushing member having a continuous cavity formed in and passing through said flange portion and said shaft portion;

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007 Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 10-

said shaft portion of said cap member being receivable axially into said continuous cavity of said bushing member through said flange portion toward said end of said shaft portion for releasable engagement with said end of said tie [[rod]] member extending through said end of said bushing member into said continuous cavity; and

said flange portion of said bushing having at least one aperture passing there through, said aperture and having an opening for permitting the fluid communication of flowable concrete into said aperture, said aperture being configured such that when concrete flows into and hardens in said aperture, said hardened concrete in said aperture which is integrally connected to hardened concrete outside of said aperture provides an anchoring device to hold said bushing member in said hardened concrete.

- 25. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) An assembly A panel unit as claimed in claim 24, wherein said at least one aperture in said flange of said bushing member is configured in a generally inwardly directed generally conical shape.
- (Withdrawn) A connector for use in securing a panel member to a tie rod, said connector having a flange cap portion and a shaft portion, said shaft portion having an end having an opening into a cavity, said tie rod having a plurality of separate circular teeth spaced from each other, said teeth having an outer diameter that is larger than the inner diameter of said inner wall of said cavity in said shaft, said shaft portion being made of a material that will elastically deform to receive said teeth of said end portion of said tie rod, such that when said tie rod end is forced through said opening into said cavity, said inner wall will bind with said teeth to provide a connection that resists axial loading of said connector tending to pull said rod out of said cavity of said shaft.
- 27. (Withdrawn) A connector assembly as claimed in claim 26, wherein said shaft portion of said connector is made from polypropylene.

Apr-30-07 04:17pm From-

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Andt. Dated: April 30, 2007 Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 11-

- 28. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A connector for use in securing a panel member to a transverse tie rod, panel unit as claimed in claim 62 wherein said second connector associated with said second panel member comprising comprises:
 - (a) a cap flange portion and a shaft portion, said shaft portion with an end having an opening adapted to be interconnected to a transverse said tie [[rod]] member, said tie [[rod]] member having an end portion; and,
 - (b) a cutting element positioned beneath an under surface of said eap-flange portion;

whereby when said connector member is rotated to provide a connection with said tie [[rod]] member, [[and]] said connector member is axially drawn toward said tie [[rod]] member, a panel member can be held between said flange portion of said cap member and said flange portion of said spacer member, and said cutting element will form a recess in an outer surface of said second panel member for receiving said cap flange portion, wherein said cap portion does not substantially protrude beyond said outer surface of said second panel member and said second panel can remain in situ after said concreted has hardened.

- 29. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A connector as claimed in claim [[27]] 28 wherein said cap flange-portion and said shaft portion are made from a rigid plastic material.
- 30. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62 wherein said connector comprises a connector assembly for use in securing a panel member to a tie rod, said connector assembly comprising:
 - (a) a cap member having a flange cap portion and a shaft portion, said shaft portion
 with an end having an opening adapted to be interconnected to an end portion of
 a tie [[rod]] member; and

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673

Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 12-

(b) a bushing member having a flange portion and an axially aligned shaft portion with an end opposite to said flange portion, said bushing member having a continuous cavity formed in and passing through said flange portion and said shaft portion;

said shaft portion of said cap member being receivable axially into said continuous cavity of said bushing member through said flange portion toward said end of said shaft portion for releasable engagement with said end of said tie [[rod]] member extending through said end of said bushing member into said continuous cavity and said end of said bushing member having guide members depending inwardly to guide said end of said tie [[rod]] member into axial alignment with said opening in said cap portion.

- 31. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a concrete wall comprising the steps:
 - A. providing a panel member as part of a form work;
 - B. interconnecting a connector assembly to a tie member through said panel member, said connector assembly comprising:
 - a cap member having a flange cap portion and a shaft portion, said shaft portion with an end having an opening adapted to be interconnected to an end portion of a tie rod;
 - (ii) a bushing member having a flange portion and an axially aligned shaft portion with an end opposite to said flange portion, said bushing member having a continuous cavity formed in and passing through said flange portion and said shaft portion;

Apr-30-07 04:18pm From-

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 13-

said step of connecting comprising (a) positioning said bushing member with said flange portion proximate an inner surface of said panel member and moving said end portion of said tie rod through said cavity in said bushing member and (b) positioning said cap portion of said cap member proximate an outer surface of said panel member and moving said shaft portion of said cap member through said panel member and axially into said continuous cavity of said bushing member through said flange portion toward said end of said shaft portion for releasable engagement with said end of said tie rod; (c) pouring the concrete into said form work and allowing said concrete to harden; and, (d) dis-engaging said cap member from said end of said tie rod; (e) removing said cap member.

- 32. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 30 further comprising after step (e), the step (f) of removing said panel member.
- 33. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 31 further comprising after the step (f) of filling in the outer opening to the continuous cavity in the bushing member.
- 34. (Withdrawn) A method of providing form work with a panel unit, said panel unit comprising an upstanding panel member and at least one tie rod having an end portion, said method comprising employing a connector to engage said end of said tie rod through said panel, said connector comprising:
 - (a) a cap flange portion and a shaft portion, said shaft portion with an end having an opening adapted to be interconnected to said tie rod;
 - (b) a cutting element positioned beneath an under surface of said cap flange portion;

said method including the step of rotating the connector to provide a connection with said tie rod, and wherein said connector is axially drawn onto said tie rod, said panel member is held between said flange portion of said cap member and said flange portion of said

Apr-30-07 04:18pm From-

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 14-

spacer member, and said cutting element will form a recess in an outer surface of said panel member for receiving said cap flange portion.

- 35. (Currently Amended) A panel unit for use as part of a concrete form for a reinforced concrete wall, said panel unit comprising:
 - (a) a pair of transversely spaced apart panels both generally oriented in or towards a
 first longitudinal direction and a second direction orthogonal to said first
 direction; and,
 - (b) a spacer comprising:
 - (i) first and second rod members oriented generally in or towards [[a]] said second direction that is orthogonal to said first direction, said first and second rod members being in generally spaced, parallel and planar relation to each other;
 - (ii) a transverse [[rod]] tie member connected to said first and second rod members and oriented generally in or toward a third transverse direction that is orthogonal to said first direction and said second direction, said transverse [[rod]] tie member being secured to and extending between said first and second panels, said transverse [[rod]] tie member having a first end and an opposite second end each adapted for securing said reinforcement unit spacer to a panel connector mounted for connecting said tie member to each said first and second panel members, respectively, so as to provide at least one transverse tie [[rod]] member between said first and second panels; and
 - (c) a form liner-panel positioned between said first and second panels proximate an inner surface of said first panel a contoured surface associated with an inner surface of said first panel.

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007 Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 15-

- 36. (Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 35 wherein said contoured surface is provided by a form liner and wherein said form liner panel is mounted in close proximity to said inner surface of said first panel with said connector member at said first panel being a releasable connector, such that said connector can be released to assist in facilitating removal of said first panel and said form liner panel, and wherein prior to removal of said first panel and said form liner, unhardened concrete can be retained in a form space defined between said form liner panel and said second panel.
- 37. (Original) A panel unit as claimed in claim 35 wherein at least one of said panels is made from a foamed plastic material.
- 38. (Canceled).
- 39. (Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim [[35]] 36 wherein said connector member at said first panel comprises at least one connector assembly for use in securing said first and second panel members in a rigid or semi-rigid position relative to said transverse tie [[rod]] member, said at least one connector assembly comprising:
 - (a) a cap member having a flange cap portion positioned proximate an outer surface of said first panel member and a shaft portion, said shaft portion having an end having an opening to a cavity, said shaft portion passing from proximate an outer surface of said first panel through an opening in said first panel toward an inner surface of said first panel, and said shaft portion being interconnected to a first end portion of a transverse tie [[rod]] member;
 - (b) a bushing member having a flange portion and an axially aligned shaft portion with an end opposite to said flange portion, said bushing member having a

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 16-

continuous cavity formed in and passing through said flange portion and said shaft portion;

said shaft portion of said cap member being receivable axially through said first panel and said form liner panel into said continuous cavity of said bushing member for releasable engagement with said end of said tie [[rod]] member in said cavity in said shaft, said tie [[rod]] member end extending through [[said]] said bushing member into said continuous cavity.

- 40. (Original) A panel unit as claimed in claim 39 wherein said bushing member has a portion in abutment with said inner surface of said form liner panel, and said flange portion of said cap member being in abutment with said first panel proximate said outer surface of said first panel.
- 41. (Original) A panel unit as claimed in claim 40 wherein said form panel liner is held between said inner surface of said first panel member and said bushing member.
- 42. (Original) A panel unit as claimed in claim 39 wherein said cap member has its shaft portion receivable axially into said continuous cavity at said flange portion of said bushing and extends toward said end of said bushing.
- 43. (Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 39 wherein said cap member can be released from said end of said tie [[rod]] member, such that said cap member can be removed from inside said continuous cavity of said bushing.
- 44. (Original) A panel unit as claimed in claim 39 further comprising a form liner panel that is contoured on its inner surface.

Apr-30-07 04:18pm From- T-864 P.021/034 F-486

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 17-

- 45. (Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 39 wherein said form liner has at least one aperture there through and said shaft portion of said cap member passes from a first outer side of said form liner through said aperture in said form liner to a second inner side of said form liner to connected to a first end portion of said transverse tie [[rod]] member.
- 46. (Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 39 further comprising a first abutting unit positioned between said bushing member and said second panel member, whereby when said cap member is drawn axially toward said tie [[rod]] member, said first panel member is held between said flange portion of said cap member and said form panel liner, said bushing member is held between said inner surface of said form liner panel and said first abutting unit.
- 47. (Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 46 further comprising a second connector secured to a second opposite end of said tie [[rod]] member, through said second panel, said second connector having a flange portion proximate an outer surface of said second panel and a shaft portion passing through said second panel member to engage said opposite end of said tie [[rod]] member;

one of said flange portion and said end of said shaft portion of said bushing of said first connector being in abutment with said inner side of said form liner, and the other of said flange portion and said end of said shaft portion of said bushing being in abutment with said first abutting unit, and said flange portion of said cap member being in abutment with said first panel proximate said outer surface of said first panel, said tie [[rod]] member having attached thereto a second abutting unit in abutment with an inner surface of said second panel to resist transverse movement of said second panel toward said spacer member,

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 18-

whereby when said cap member is drawn axially toward said tie [[rod]] member, said [[first]] first panel member is held between said flange portion of said cap member of said first connector and said form liner, and said form liner is held between said one of said end of said shaft and said flange portion of said bushing, and said inner surface of said first panel; and said bushing is held between said form liner and said first abutting unit, and said second panel is held between said second abutting unit and said flange portion of said second connector member.

- 48. (Original) A panel unit as claimed in claim 47 wherein said cap member has its shaft portion receivable axially into said continuous cavity at said end of said shaft portion of said bushing member and extends toward said flange portion of said bushing member.
- 49. (Original) A connector as claimed in claim 48 wherein said cap flange portion and said shaft portion are made from a rigid plastic material.
- 50. (Original) A panel unit as claimed in claim 49 wherein at least one of said panels is made from a foamed plastic material.
- 51. (Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 46 wherein said first abutting unit comprises a third generally vertically and longitudinally oriented panel, spaced from and in generally parallel relation to said first panel and said form liner on the one hand and from said [[and]] second panels panel on the other, said tie [[rod]] member passing through said third panel.
- 52. (Original) A panel unit as claimed in claim 51 wherein said third panel is made from a foamed plastic material.
- 53. (Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 51 wherein said third panel has a first side in abutment with said bushing member and a second side in abutment with

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 19-

a vertical rod member that forms part of said spacer and is secured to said transverse tie [[rod]] member,

- 54. (Original) A panel unit as claimed in claim 43 wherein said cap member, said first panel and said form liner are removable from said panel unit, when concrete has been poured and hardened in a form space between said first panel and said second panel.
- 55. (Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 39 further comprising a third panel member oriented generally parallel to said first and second panel members and positioned between, and spaced from, said form liner and said second panel, and wherein said cap member, said first panel and said form liner are removable from said panel unit, when concrete has been poured and hardened in form spaces between said first panel form panel liner and said third panel, and between said third panel and said second panel.
- 56. (Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 55 wherein said cap member can be released from said end of said tie [[rod]] member, such that said cap member can be removed from inside said continuous cavity of said bushing member.
- 57. (Canceled).
- 58. (Canceled).
- 59. (Canceled).
- 60. (Canceled).
- 61. (Canceled).

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673

Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 20-

- 62. (Currently Amended) A panel unit for use as part of a concrete form for a reinferred concrete wall, said panel unit comprising:
 - (a) a pair of spaced apart longitudinally oriented foamed plastic panels members defining a form space therebetween;
 - (b) a spacer comprising at least one transverse tie [[rod]] member secured to and extending between said first and second panels panel members, said transverse rod member having a first end and an opposite second end each being adapted for securing said transverse tie [[rod]] member to a panel connector member to mount said spacer to first and second panel members, at least one of said panel connectors a first connector associated with said first panel member being releasable from said tie [[rod]] member;

wherein said first panel member has at least one inner surface treated with a material having enhanced non-adhesive properties, such that the inner surface will tend not to bond extensively to said hardening or hardened concrete, and wherein said at least one first connector can be released and at least part of said first connector and said first panel member can be removed when said concrete has hardened.

- 63. (Currently Amended) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62, wherein said material is a suitable plastic film that is laminated at least onto said inner surface of said first panel member.
- 64. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a reinforced concrete wall with a panel unit as part of a form work, said panel unit comprising:
 - (a) a pair of spaced apart longitudinally oriented foamed plastic panels defining a form space there between;

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 21-

- (b) a spacer comprising at least one transverse tie rod member secured to and extending between said first and second panels, said transverse rod member having a first end and an opposite second end to a panel connector to secure said panels with said tie rod, at least one of said panel connectors being releasable from said tie rod:
- (c) at least one reinforcement member positioned in said form space

wherein said first panel member has at least one inner surface treated with a material having enhanced non-adhesive properties, such that the inner surface will tend not to bond extensively to said hardened concrete;

said method comprising the steps of:

- (i) arranging said panel unit as part of said formwork;
- (ii) filling said form space with unhardened concrete and allowing said unhardened concrete to sufficiently harden to permit removal of said formwork;
- (iii) releasing said releasable panel connector from securement to said tie rod:
- (iv) removing said first panel member from said formwork.
- 65. (Currently Amended) A panel unit for use as part of a concrete form for a concrete wall comprising:
 - (a) At least one upstanding panel member eriented in a longitudinal direction;
 - (b) a spacer mounted to said panel member, said spacer comprising:

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 22-

a rod member and a reinforcement bar member oriented generally in or towards a first direction, said rod member and said reinforcement bar member being spaced apart in a second transverse direction that is generally orthogonal to said first direction and said rod member and said reinforcement bar member being in generally spaced, planar and generally parallel relation to each other;

a transverse rod member secured to and extending generally in said second direction between said rod member and said reinforcement bar member;

such that said rod member, said reinforcement bar member and said transverse rod member form a substantially planar, rigid geometrically stable grid.

- 66. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62 wherein both of said panel connectors at said first and second ends of said tie member are releasable from said tie member and wherein said first panel member and said second panels members have opposed inner surfaces treated with a material having enhanced non-adhesive properties, such that the inner surfaces of said first and second panel members will tend not to bond extensively to said hardening or hardened concrete, and wherein both of said connectors can be released and both of said connectors and said first second panel members removed when said concrete has hardened.
- 67. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62 wherein said material with non-adhesive properties is a suitable plastic material.
- 68. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 63 wherein both the inner and outer surfaces of said panel members are laminated with a suitable plastic film material.
- 69. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62 wherein the suitable plastic film material is polypropylene.

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Aundt, Dated: April 30, 2007 Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 23-

- 70. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62 wherein the inner surfaces of both of said first and second panel members are laminated with a suitable plastic film material so that both said first and second panel members can be removed when said concrete has hardened.
- 71. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62 wherein said spacer comprises a rod member and a reinforcement bar member oriented generally in or towards a first longitudinal direction, said rod member and said reinforcement bar member being spaced apart in a second transverse direction that is generally orthogonal to said first direction and said rod member and said reinforcement bar member being in generally spaced, planar and generally parallel relation to each other;

a transverse rod member secured to and extending generally in said second direction between said rod member and said reinforcement bar member;

wherein said rod member, said reinforcement bar member and said transverse rod member form a substantially rigid geometrically stable grid.

- 72. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 71 wherein said spacer comprises a second transverse rod member secured to and extending generally in said second direction between said rod member and said reinforcement bar member, such that said rod member, said reinforcement bar member and said first and second transverse rod members form a substantially rigid geometrically stable grid.
- 73. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 36 wherein said transverse tie member assists in positioning said form liner panel between said first and second panels proximate an inner surface of said first panel.

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 24-

- 74. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 73 wherein a spacing member mounted on said tie member assists in positioning said form liner panel between said first and second panels proximate an inner surface of said first panel.
- 75. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 35 further comprising a third panel oriented generally parallel to said first and second panels that said third panel is sandwiched between said first panel and the second panel, and wherein said tie member extends from said first panel through third panel member to said second panel member.
- . 76. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 75 wherein said first, second and third panels are each made from a foamed plastic material.
- 77. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62 further comprising a third panel member oriented generally parallel to said pair of panel members, and positioned between and spaced therefrom such that said third panel member is sandwiched between said pair of panel members, and wherein said tie member extends between said first panel member, through said third panel member, to said second panel member.
- 78. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 77 wherein said third panel is made from a foamed plastic material.
- 79. (New) A panel unit for use as part of a concrete form for a concrete wall, said panel unit comprising:
 - (a) a pair of transversely spaced apart panels both generally oriented in or towards a first direction and a second direction orthogonal to said first direction;
 - (b) a spacer comprising:

Scrial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Arndt. Dated: April 30, 2007 Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 25-

- (i) first and second rod members oriented generally in or towards said second direction that is orthogonal to said first direction, said first and second rod members being in generally spaced, parallel and planar relation to each other;
- (ii) a transverse tie member connected to said first and second rod members and oriented generally in or toward a third transverse direction that is orthogonal to said first direction and said second direction, said transverse tie member being secured to and extending between said first and second panels, said transverse tie member having a first end and an opposite second end each adapted for securing said spacer to a panel connector for connecting said tie member to each of said first and second panel members, respectively, so as to provide at least one transverse tie member between said first and second panels; and
- (c) a third panel oriented generally parallel to said first and second panels, and positioned between and spaced therefrom such that said third panel is sandwiched between said first panel and the second panel, and wherein said tie member extends between said first panel, through said third panel member, to said second panel member.
- 80. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 62 wherein said first connector comprises a connector assembly for use in securing a panel member to said spacer with said transverse tie member, said connector assembly comprising:
 - (a) an outer member having an outer retaining portion and a shaft portion, said shaft portion with an end having an opening adapted to be interconnected to an end portion of said tie member; and
 - (b) a bushing member positioned proximate an inner surface of said first panel member between said first panel member and said second panel member, said

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Arndt. Dated: April 30, 2007 Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 26-

bushing member having an axially aligned shaft portion with a first end having proximate thereto a stopping portion, and said shaft portion having an second end opposite to said first end, said bushing member having a continuous cavity formed in and passing through said shaft portion extending from said first end to said second end:

said outer retaining portion of said outer member holding said first panel member when subjected to outward forces and said shaft portion of said outer member being receivable into said first panel member axially into said continuous cavity of said bushing member from said first end to said second end of said shaft portion so as to be able to engage said end of said tie member extending through said second end of said bushing member into said continuous cavity, said shaft portion of said outer member also engaging an abutment in said continuous cavity of said bushing member so to limit the extent of axial movement of said shaft portion of said cap member relative to said bushing member toward said second end of said shaft portion of said bushing member;

whereby a panel member can be held between said outer member and said stopping portion of said bushing member.

- 81. (New) A panel unit as claimed in claim 80 wherein a second connector associated with said second panel member comprises:
 - (a) a cap portion and a shaft portion, said shaft portion with an end having an opening adapted to be interconnected to said tie member, said tie member having an end portion; and,
 - (b) a cutting element positioned beneath an under surface of said portion;

whereby when said connector member is rotated to provide a connection with said tie member, said connector member is axially drawn toward said tie member and said Apr-30-07 04:20pm From-T-864 P.031/034 F-486

Serial No. 10/721,945 Group Art Unit: 3673 Amdt. Dated: April 30, 2007

Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

-Page 27-

cutting element will form a recess in an outer surface of said second panel member for receiving said cap portion, so that said cap portion does not protrude beyond said outer surface of said second panel member and said second panel can remain in situ after said concrete has hardened.